

which is sponsored by the Federal Railroad Administration.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. DENHAM and I ask our colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize Mr. James A. Stem. The contributions he made to the United Transportation Union and the railroad industry deserve to be commended.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th Anniversary of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Redwood City, California. This congregation cherishes its diversity and welcomes anyone who wants to join its spiritual journey.

Father Giles Alexander Easton founded the church in 1864 a few months after he led the first Episcopal service in Redwood City in a room at the old county courthouse. He named the congregation after St. Peter's Church in Smyrna, Delaware, where he had been baptized and confirmed.

St. Peter's was the second church in Redwood City to organize and construct a church building. In 1867, the "Little Red Church" was built and became a landmark for six decades.

In the 20th century, as the population in Redwood City increased, the parish outgrew its building and moved to its current location at 178 Clinton Street. In 1925, the congregation built a parish hall that served as the church and a meeting space. In 1952, the sanctuary, offices and classrooms were added as the baby boom reached its peak. While many of the baby boomers are thinking about retirement now, the young generations continue to utilize St. Peter's buildings and grounds. The church houses a Montessori preschool, the Ragazzi Boys Choir and its own youth group.

Over the last 150 years Redwood City has changed dramatically. The railroad transformed a small logging port into a suburb, and the explosive growth of Silicon Valley turned the suburb into the hometown of many technology companies and their employees. This explosive growth has brought wealth to many residents, but it has also left some of them behind. Many families struggle with skyrocketing housing prices and rents, a high cost of living and job insecurity. One thing that has not changed in Redwood City is that the doors of St. Peter's Church are open to everyone.

The parish is proud to include people from all walks of life and of all ages. It is also very active in mentoring young people to give back to the community. St. Peter's has delivered hundreds of backpacks and uniforms to local schools, has served many meals and filled many "Hope Bags" for the homeless.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives rise with me to acknowledge the good that St. Peter's Episcopal Church has done over the last 150 years for its parishioners and the community at large. May it continue to share its welcoming spirit for at least another 150 years.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
FRIENDSHIP INDUSTRIES, INC.

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, Friendship Industries, Inc. in Harrisonburg, Virginia has served the Commonwealth of Virginia well by offering employment and training opportunities for individuals with disabilities. With a vision of providing "work opportunities to ensure immediate and full employment for all persons with disabilities" who come to them for assistance, Friendship Industries has fostered a community that seeks to value all individuals, regardless of the challenges they may face.

Friendship Industries, founded in 1964, became one of the first social enterprises in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. What first began as the Linville-Edom Sheltered Workshop for post-high school aged males has grown and flourished into a manufacturing company that has earned both private and public contracts. Through all this growth and change, Friendship Industries has retained its social mission of developing and maintaining employment and training opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

I applaud Friendship Industries for its contributions to our community. For 50 years now, the business has provided work opportunities for individuals living with disabilities, embracing the sentiment that "work offers community and belonging." It is an honorable goal to extend community and belonging to all people, and it is my great pleasure to congratulate them and celebrate the work they've done to achieve that goal.

Friendship Industries, Inc. will commemorate their 50th anniversary on October 7, 2014. I am pleased to recognize them here today in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING 2014 MISSOURIAN AWARD RECIPIENTS JIM GIGLIO, CLIF SMART, AND TOM STRONG

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jim Giglio, Clif Smart, and Tom Strong on receiving the 2014 Missourian Award.

The Missourian Award recognizes Missourians who have positively impacted their communities, state, or nation through contributions in civics, arts, business, or politics.

It is important that we strive to better the community we live in and it is apparent that these three men from Missouri's 7th Congressional District have continually done that.

Jim Giglio served as an officer in the U.S. Army and taught at Missouri State University for 39 years. He has produced eight books, including one of my favorites 'Call Me Tom: The Life of Thomas F. Eagleton,' along with the best seller out of the series on the study of John F. Kennedy in the American Presidency Series.

Since Clif Smart joined the Missouri State University community in 2007, he has not stopped working to better the school. When he became president in 2012, he immediately started to make new changes that would benefit the college and its students. Under President Smart, Missouri State University has met all five of its performance measures established by the Missouri Coordination Board of Higher Education and oversaw many improvements to the campus.

Tom Strong founded Strong, Garner, Bauer P.C. in 1976 and is admitted to practice law in front of the Supreme Court of the United States. The Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys awards the Thomas G. Strong Trial Attorney Award in his name to the attorney who is a great example of what a trial lawyer should be. He also authored a book that I thoroughly enjoyed titled 'Strong Advocate: The Life of a Trial Lawyer.'

I am proud of the initiative these three individuals have taken to make the great state of Missouri the best it can be. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this tremendous honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEANNE FOX

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeanne Fox on her retirement from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Commissioner Fox is a dedicated public servant whose numerous achievements should be celebrated.

Commissioner Fox has been an outstanding advocate for environmental causes. She served as President of the Board of Public Utilities from 2002 until 2010 and served two terms as Commissioner. Prior to her positions at the Board, Commissioner Fox served as Regional Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and as Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. During her tenure as President of the Board of Public Utilities, the Board received several environmental awards, including the Golden Meter Award for Best Statewide Net Metering Program in the U.S. and the Network for New Energy Choices Award.

Additionally, Commissioner Fox has also been an active member of a number of environmental organizations and commissions. She served on the Board of Directors of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative from 2003 until 2010, was President of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners and was a member of the Advisory Council to the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute, among others.

Commissioner Fox is a graduate of Rutgers University, earning her Bachelor's Degree from Douglass College and Juris Doctor from Rutgers University School of Law.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Jeanne Fox on her retirement. Her commitment to public service and the betterment of our communities is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK HALL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jack Hall, who passed away on August 20, 2014 at the age of 57 after a short battle with cancer. Jack made a positive difference in the lives of countless individuals, and he will undoubtedly be missed by many.

In 1957, Jack was born to Bill and Maureen in Cork, Ireland. When Jack was a year old, his family immigrated to the United States. After living in Los Angeles and Firebaugh, Jack's family settled in Fresno, California where he graduated from Bullard High School in 1975.

After graduating from high school, Jack worked with his father for a farming operation in Firebaugh. He then worked at an accountancy firm before serving as a fiscal analyst for the State Center Community College District. In 1999, Jack received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from California State University, Fresno.

Jack's career in politics began in 2000 when he was hired to serve as the Director of the Central Valley and Agricultural Liaison for Governor Gray Davis. During his tenure with the Governor's office, Jack helped to create the "Buy California" marketing program which later became known as the "Californian Grown" initiative.

When Governor Davis left office, Jack served as my first District Director. During his time, he was instrumental in establishing the offices in California's 20th Congressional District. He was an exemplary employee who truly cared about the San Joaquin Valley and our entire nation.

Upon his departure from my office, Jack served as the Southern California Regional Coordinator for the Alliance for a Better California. In addition, he served as the Statewide Political Director for the California Faculty Association. Jack also served on the Big Fresno Fair board, and he created his own firm, Central Valley Strategies.

In January 2010, Jack began working as a regional Director of Governmental Affairs for Comcast Cable. He served as Chairman of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Jack was well respected by community leaders, his colleagues, and many friends.

More important than his career in politics, Jack's family meant everything to him. He was a devoted husband to his wife, Christina, with whom he had two children: Liam and Rachel. He was a dedicated father who always took the time to attend his children's athletic events from their days in youth leagues through their collegiate careers. He is survived by his wife and children, as well as his mother, Maureen, his siblings: Patricia, Anne, Kevin, Tom, Bill, and Vince, and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and in-laws.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Jack Hall. His service to our community and fun-loving spirit will always be remembered.

## GEORGIA INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to observe National Disability Employment Month this October, I am honored to recognize Georgia Industries for the Blind (GIB). GIB works in partnership with the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency to generate employment opportunities throughout Georgia in manufacturing and services for people who are blind. It is appropriate, at this time to reflect on and celebrate their achievements.

There remains a significant gap in employment for those with disabilities. Today, nearly seventy percent of workforce-eligible blind individuals remain unemployed.

GIB has helped bridge the employment gap for blind individuals in Georgia since it began in 1949 by providing good jobs in manufacturing and service industries. They currently have four centers in Georgia that employ nearly 200 people, most of whom are blind, and generate over \$12 million in annual sales. Furthermore, GIB was presented with the Commissioner's Cup Safety Award for 2013, a distinction considered to be the top workplace safety award in the State of Georgia.

GIB demonstrates the importance of having an inclusive workforce. Their business success is not only measured in sales and awards, but also in changed lives by affording opportunities to those with disabilities. It is important for us to raise awareness regarding disability employment and the inherent value that employing those with disabilities brings to the workplace.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, on behalf of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, in recognizing GIB for its strong work and contributions to Georgia.

WISHING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
A HAPPY DOUBLE TEN**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic of China, commonly called Taiwan, on its upcoming National Day of the Republic of China on October 10, 2014.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, which has facilitated a special relationship between the United States and Taiwan. Since 1979, we have enjoyed close security cooperation, culture exchange and trade flows. The economies of the U.S. and Taiwan are tightly linked, and Taiwan has been an important trading partner to the United States.

I would also like to recognize the accomplishments of President Ma Ying-jeou in contributing to peace and security in the region. During his presidency, Taiwan and Mainland China have had constructive dialogue between their leaders. I hope that this dialogue will continue.

As a member of the Taiwan Caucus, I have had the opportunity to learn much more about

the amazing country that is Taiwan. As a beacon of freedom and democracy in the global community, I look forward to continuing to work with Taiwan to strengthen our friendship and alliance.

I wish the people of Taiwan a happy Double Ten, and I yield back the balance of my time.

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL  
PARENTS CORPS ACT OF 2014**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the National Parents Corps Act of 2014. I am proud to author this legislation which intends to combat youth violence and substance abuse in our country's schools.

The National Parents Corps Act aims to continue the successful National Parents Corps program first initiated in 2003. The bill revitalizes a program which trains parent leaders to collaborate with schools, students, and the community in order to proactively work together in deterring and reducing alcohol and drug abuse, bullying, gang involvement, and other dangerous activities.

The program targets middle school students and creates a collaborative network to recognize and respond to dangerous trends in the most susceptible school-age population—middle school. Professionally-trained parent leaders will build critical networks between students, parents, teachers, administrators, local law enforcement, and the community. They will develop prevention programs, share scientific research, best practices, and create spaces of open dialogue and targeted action.

Mr. Speaker, I have always stood for investing in children and for peaceful communities, which is why I am reintroducing this legislation. No child should live his or her life in fear or marked by drugs and violence. This bill responds to a clear need, with a targeted and effective approach, and I hope all of my colleagues will join this common-sense effort to support healthy, safe, schools.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO JAZZ OF GERI ALLEN**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, jazz artist Geri Allen will be honored this year by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) at the Jazz Forum and Concert during the 44th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC). Ms. Allen is an internationally renowned pianist, composer, and educator, who will also be performing at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, in Washington, D.C. Ms. Allen will receive the 2014 CBCF ALC Jazz Legacy Award for her contributions to jazz and world culture.

Geri Allen was born on June 12, 1957 in Pontiac, Michigan, but she was raised in Detroit, where she attended Detroit public schools. Her early music education came at Cass Technical High School in Detroit, and